

COMMITTEE ROOM 425,

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

THURSDAY, March 31st, 1927.

The Select Standing Committee on Railways and Shipping met at 3 p.m., the Chairman, Mr. Goodison, presiding.

The CHAIRMAN: We left off the day before yesterday at Item No. 135 on page 16 of the Report. The next Item is Storage-Baggage; 1926, \$52,602.15; 1925, \$51,654.41, an increase of \$950. The next Item is Demurrage; 1926, \$833,738.70; 1925, \$689,487.04; an increase of \$144,251.

Mr. JELLIFF: How did that increase come about?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: From increased business and a little closer collection of demurrage charges. The increased business carries with it more use of cars.

Mr. JELLIFF: You enforced your demurrage rules more closely?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: Item 138, Telegraph and Telephones; 1926, \$2,507.28; 1925, \$2,559.40, a decrease of \$52. Item 139, Grain Elevators; 1926, \$391,408.87; 1925, \$502,988.19; a decrease of \$11,579.

Mr. JELLIFF: Will you explain that?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: The decrease is not because there was less grain handled but it is for storage and insurance due to the grain being held in the elevators for a shorter period than in 1925.

The CHAIRMAN: Power; an increase of \$14,711.86. Item 142, Rents of Buildings and other Property; 1926, \$368,738.54; 1925, \$336,153.21.

Mr. CANTLEY: What is the explanation of that Power item?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: It is revenue from power sold to the Armour Grain Company, and others, at Depot Harbour, and which in 1925 was credited to Account No. 443; simply a change in accounting.

The CHAIRMAN: The rents of buildings and other property shows an increase of \$32,585.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: That was due to the difficulty experienced in segregating expenses and maintenance of properties rented. It was considered advisable to segregate rentals from employees to this account in preference to Account No. 510, as was done in 1925.

Mr. MILNE: Is that for car rentals?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: No, rentals for property.

The CHAIRMAN: Item 143, Miscellaneous; 1926, \$1,546,898.93; 1925, \$1,433,892.60; an increase of \$113,006.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: That increase is made up by a number of factors; the principal ones are the operating of boarding cars, an increase in the Victoria Bridge tolls, an increase in the International Bridge tolls, and an increase in the sale of cinders, gravel and water, and an increase in heating and cleaning cars.

The CHAIRMAN: Item No. 151, Joint Facility-Credit; 1926, \$26,787.62; 1925, \$22,763.39; an increase of \$4,024.

[Sir Henry Thornton.]